

Senate Resolution 1538

By: Senators Thomas of the 54th and Goggans of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Georgia Department of Community Health to require patient centered medical
2 home pilot projects be established through care management organizations for the Medicaid
3 population and to establish a pilot project of the patient centered medical home through the
4 State Health Benefit Health Insurance Plans; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, medical homes should provide patient centered care that is accessible,
6 continuous, and coordinated with a focus on maintaining a healthy lifestyle for patients with
7 preventive and ongoing health services; and

8 WHEREAS, the primary care provided at medical homes should be respectful of, and
9 responsive to, individual patient preferences, needs, and values; and

10 WHEREAS, physicians practicing in medical homes should target eligible individuals for
11 program participation and should be responsible for providing safe and secure technology
12 that promotes patient access to personal health information, for developing a health
13 assessment tool for targeted individuals, and for providing training to personnel involved in
14 the coordination of care; and

15 WHEREAS, personal physicians in medical homes should be eligible for case management
16 fees and incentive payments for providing "medical home" services; and

17 WHEREAS, personal physicians who provide first contact and continuous care for their
18 patients should be board certified and have the staff and resources to manage the
19 comprehensive and coordinated care of each of their patients; and

20 WHEREAS, participating physicians in the program should be specialists or subspecialists
21 for patients requiring ongoing care for specific conditions, for multiple chronic conditions,
22 or for those with a prolonged illness; and

23 WHEREAS, personal physicians should be responsible for providing ongoing support,
24 oversight, and guidance to implement an integrated, coherent, cross-discipline plan of care
25 developed in partnership with patients and any of their other medical providers; and

26 WHEREAS, physicians in medical homes should be required to use evidence based medicine
27 and clinical decision support tools to guide their decision making to patient-specific
28 symptoms; and

29 WHEREAS, the use of health information technology should be required of physicians in
30 medical homes, and patients should be encouraged to engage in management of their own
31 health through education and support systems; and

32 WHEREAS, the evaluation of the patient centered medical home should be based on patient
33 satisfaction, provider satisfaction, clinical process and outcome measures, program costs and
34 savings, and the economic impact on health care providers; and

35 WHEREAS, evaluation should be on the extent to which the medical home coordinated
36 health care services, provided safe and high-quality care, encouraged long-term patient and
37 provider relationships, engaged and educated consumers, and encouraged innovation in
38 payment methodologies.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
40 urge the Georgia Department of Community Health to establish patient centered medical
41 home pilot projects.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
43 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Department of Community
44 Health.